

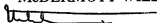
REMARKS

In response to the pending Office Action, claims 1-19 are pending, with claims 1, 3, 9, and 13 being independent. Claims 1, 3, 9, 13, and 19 have been amended. Claim 20 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. No new matter has been introduced.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-19 are allowed. To place the Application in condition for allowance, Applicants have cancelled the previously withdrawn claim 20 and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowability be issued at this time. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request that the references listed on the PTO-1449 form filed on January 31, 2006 be expressly considered and initialized during the prosecution of this application, and the initialized PTO-1449 form be returned to the Applicants along with the Notice of Allowability.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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